

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FORMER LEE'S SUMMIT BUSINESS OWNER INDICTED FOR EMBEZZLING PENSION FUND

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a former Lee's Summit, Mo., business owner was indicted by a federal grand jury today for embezzling pension funds and failing to file pension plan reports.

Christopher G. Andrew, 42, of Lee's Summit, was charged in a three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City. **Andrew** is the former co-owner and president of Andrew Technology, Inc., a Lee's Summit company providing computer programming services and specializing in software systems analysis and design.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Andrew**, the plan administrator for the company's 401(k) retirement plan, embezzled \$24,593 by stealing employee contributions to the plan between Oct. 1, 2001, and June 30, 2002.

The indictment alleges that **Andrew** withheld approximately \$17,201 in employee contributions, failing to make any payments to Sterling Trust Company, the directed trustee/custodian of retirement funds, on behalf of his employees who were participants in the plan. Instead, **Andrew** allegedly converted the employee contributions to his own use and the use of another by using these funds for other purposes. The indictment also alleges that **Andrew** received an employee's \$7,392 "rollover check" – consisting of retirement funds from a previous employer – which **Andrew** used to fund payroll and other expenses of the company.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Andrew** failed to file the annual report for the 401(k) plan for the calendar year 2001, as required by federal law.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Andrew** failed to file the annual report for the 401(k) plan for the calendar year 2002, as required by federal law.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney J. Daniel Stewart. It was investigated by the Employee Benefits Security Administration of the Department of Labor.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States
Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow